

## Short Of Majority Laborites Lead In Britain

LONDON (AP) — Harold Wilson's Laborites held a sizable lead in returns today from the British general election, but computer projections said they would fall short of a majority in the new House of Commons.

Wilson ruled out a coalition with the Liberals, Britain's third party, and it thus appeared that he might become the nation's first minority prime minister since Ramsay MacDonald in 1929-31.

He could stay in office only as long as the Liberals and an assortment of nationalists, Ulster Protestants and independents did not unite with Prime Minister Edward Heath's Conservatives to vote him out and force a new election.

With 445 of the 635 Commons seats decided when counting stopped for the night, the Labor party had 256, the Conservatives 179, the Liberals 5 and others 5.

Those returns represented gains of 23 seats for the Laborites and four for the Liberals, and the loss of 31 for the Conservatives.

The computer projections of both the British Broadcasting Corp. and ITV, the commercial television network, predicted Labor would win a total of 307 seats, 11 short of a majority. The BBC

predicted 300 seats for the Conservatives and the remaining 28 for the Liberals and others; ITV forecast 293 for the Conservatives, 22 for the Liberals and 13 for others.

A Conservative upsurge was expected today as returns came in from rural and suburban districts in which Heath's party is normally strong. But it appeared unlikely this would close the gap enough to send the Conservative leader back to No. 10 Downing St.

The prospect of a weak minority government amid Britain's worst economic crisis since World War II seemed to reflect the confusion of the nation over how best to tackle its industrial, trading, monetary and social problems.

Wilson has a wide-ranging series of commitments, but he likely can make good on only one of them without a majority. That is to settle the national coal strike which provoked Heath into calling the election three weeks ago. The Conservative government's pay board has already laid the groundwork for that by determining that the miners are entitled to more than they were asking when they struck.

Wilson is also pledged to nationalize a sizable part of British

industry, renegotiate the terms of Britain's membership in the European Common Market and then to put the results to a national plebiscite, cut defense spending millions of pounds a year and negotiate the closing of the American Polaris submarine base in Scotland. He probably can do none of these without a majority.

Wilson, greeted early today at a Liverpool Labor club with chants of "prime minister, prime minister," replied with a thumbs up sign but declined to make a formal victory claim.

"I think it is too early to say whether we will have an overall majority," he said in a television interview. "I find the results so far reasonably encouraging."

Rejecting the idea of a coalition to form a majority, he said: "A government has got to act according to the policies it thinks are right, not by looking over its shoulder at a coalition partner."

Heath, returning for what could be his last night in No. 10 Downing St., told newsmen: "I will comment on the results tomorrow when the situation is clear."

Wilson, Heath and Jeremy Thorpe, the Liberal party leader, all were re-elected to their seats in Commons by sizable margins. So were their chief lieutenants.



**LEWIS CASS INTERMEDIATE BOARD:** Members of Lewis Cass intermediate school board expressed surprise last night following resignation of board member Sam Schpok of Dowagiac. Board members are, from left, Mrs. Ann Stevens of Edwardsburg; Supt. Mrs. Mary Lou Corbit of Cassopolis; Robert

Bainbridge of Marcellus, president; A.F. Federowski of Vandalia, and Mrs. Janet Pen-dergrass of Dowagiac. Schpok did not attend last night's meeting. The board unanimously accepted his resignation last night. (Staff photo)

## Drivers Face Dry Weekend In Michigan

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

Motorists in southern Lower Michigan, especially those in the Detroit area, face their bleakest weekend since World War II, the Automobile Club of Michigan said Thursday.

The club estimated seven out of 10 gasoline stations would be closed today because of fuel shortages in Detroit and its suburbs. The situation should be little better across the rest of southern Michigan, spokesmen said.

Weekend gasoline seekers will face an even tougher task.

The Auto Club said its surveys indicated just 20 per cent of the service stations in metropolitan Detroit would open Saturday

and only five per cent Sunday.

Weekend deliveries of March fuel allocations should bring the situation back to normal by Monday morning, when most stations are expected to reopen, club spokesmen said.

The club said sufficient service stations would be open along major highways in southern Michigan over the weekend. Spokesmen said about half the stations along the highways should be open, except on Interstate 94, where just 24 per cent would be open.

North of a line from Bay City to Ludington, gasoline supplies are ample, the Auto Club said.

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Gov. William Milliken said Thursday more than eight million gallons of Michigan's February gasoline reserve has been released to help ease month-end shortages.

Milliken said he ordered the Michigan energy office to determine the cause of the spot shortages, to monitor the gasoline flow, and have an allocation plan ready if greater shortages occur.

## LMC Is Cleared Of 'Unfair' Charge

By BILL RUSH  
Staff Writer

The Michigan Employment Relations Commission (MERC) has cleared Lake Michigan college of unfair labor practice charges that grew out of negotiations prior to the teachers' strike in February 1973.

In a unanimous decision, the three-member commission affirmed an earlier decision by one of its administrative law judges that LMC "engaged in no more than hard bargaining and did not violate its duty to bargain in good faith" within the meaning of the State Public Employment Relations Act.

The LMC Federation of Teachers filed the charges Feb. 14, 1973, accusing LMC of surface bargaining and failure to make counter offers. Atty. Bernard Fieger of Southfield, teacher's counsel, said MERC's decision would now be appealed to the state courts. He said it omits what he called a major issue of a "shifting" position by the college during bargaining.

In its decision, MERC ordered that the charges against LMC be dismissed in their entirety noting that bargaining obligations under the state act do not "compel either party to agree to a proposal or require the making of a concession."

A hearing on the charges was held before Joseph B. Bixler, administrative law judge for MERC, last March in the Berrien county courthouse. In July, he recommended that the

unfair labor practice charges be dismissed and the teachers appealed to MERC. MERC said it did find several errors of facts in Bixler's recommended decision but said "they are without any significance in determining the ultimate fact of whether or not there was surface bargaining."

Atty. Robert Claus, labor counsel for LMC, called before MERC's ruling "a significant decision that will be of great value in the suit before Judge Fox." Claus said "I will introduce this decision into the faculty suit in federal court."

The suit before U.S. District Judge Noel Fox in Grand Rapids was also filed by teachers about 11 months ago after they were fired for going out on strike. The issue is whether the teachers should have received hearings before being dismissed. A trial date has been set for March 14.

## Dog's Lungs Damaged By Pellet Gun Shooter

A poodle valued at more than \$100 was in serious condition with two punctured lungs after it was shot by someone with a pellet gun Thursday night. St. Joseph township police reported. Owner Leslie Scherer, 45, of 792 Lattimer drive, St. Joseph township, told police the dog was shot shortly after it was let out of the house about 9:30 p.m.

Patrolman Larry Eichelberger said the dog was treated by a veterinarian.

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## Aftermath Of Stormy Meeting Schpok Quits Cass School Board

By ALAN AREND  
Staff Writer

LAGRANGE — Lewis Cass intermediate school board last night unanimously accepted a letter of resignation from board

member Sam Schpok of Dowagiac, in the wake of an apparent dispute over the employment of Supt. Mary Lou Corbit.

Schpok's brief letter of resig-

nation, followed a stormy meeting of the board Tuesday night, at which Schpok publicly accused Mrs. Corbit's husband, John, of hitting him in the face, just prior to Tuesday's meeting.

Schpok did not attend last night's meeting. His letter of resignation was delivered to the board by Mrs. Ann Stevens of Edwardsburg, board member.

Schpok's resignation was read by Bainbridge. It stated "Consider this letter my resignation

from the Lewis Cass intermediate board. Effective immediately." And was signed Sam Schpok.

Schpok before the Tuesday meeting had notified this newspaper by telephone that some sensational developments would occur and requested that a reporter be present. The exact nature of the developments did not come out during the meeting because of the accusation and abrupt adjournment.

Bainbridge, declined to comment specifically on the issues or personalities involved in Tuesday night's flareup. But he admitted in a phone conversation this morning with this newspaper that "There have been some rumors and charges flying around."

"I have been checking on such rumors, along with other members of the board," Bainbridge said. "And so far we

have found most of them not to be true.

"We're working with a situation in which the superintendent has tenure; she has two years to go on her contract," he said. "I think we can work out whatever problems have existed, particularly now that Mr. Schpok has resigned from the board."

It was learned following last night's meeting, that a secret meeting was held at the home of a Dowagiac school board member Sunday. A number of school board members and superintendents from the four Cass county school districts — and Schpok, reportedly attended the meeting.

The meeting, which may have triggered Tuesday's eruption, was held to discuss alleged problems of the intermediate board, and particularly the employment of Mrs. Corbit as superintendent. The meeting was closed to other intermediate board members, it was learned.

This newspaper also learned from an intermediate board member last night, who wished not to be identified, that previously the four superintendents of the Cass county school districts had all made evaluations of Mrs. Corbit and rated her performance unsatisfactory.

Bainbridge, told this newspaper this morning that part of the underlying problem in the district is that its education program "has expanded tremendously in the past year, and we've had some growing pains."

"There have been some communications problems between the superintendent and the constituent superintendents," Bainbridge acknowledged, "but I think they are being worked out successfully. Everyone seems to be cooperating."

Bainbridge noted that Mrs. Corbit's absence due to her injuries received when she fell on

(See back page, sec. 1, col. 6)

## Cat Blamed For BH House Fire

Benton Harbor firemen reported they extinguished two furnace fires, one of which started when a cat dragged rubbish into a cold air duct which accumulated in the furnace.

A pet cat at the home of Leroy Johnson, 1186 Columbus avenue, was apparently responsible for the fire that started in his furnace Thursday about 6:40 a.m.

The cat had been dragging the rags and bits of paper through a register on the first floor through the cold air ducts to the furnace where the debris ignited.

The fire was extinguished with damage reported to the basement and the main floor.

A second furnace fire was extinguished this morning about 6 p.m. at the home of Anita Simmons, 655 Pipestone street, Benton Harbor.

Firefighters reported the blaze was extinguished with damage reported to the basement and two upper floors. Mrs. Simmons and her seven children escaped with no injuries.



**SAM SCHPOK**  
Resigns from board

At The Derby, South Haven. E. Mar-K Organization. Featuring Judy Gray on vocals. Fri & Sat nite (or your listening & dancing pleasure.



**MISS BARODA:** Mary Kilguspon, 17, was selected Miss Baroda 1974 last night. She wore a lavender and blue, green floral flocked sheer print gown with empire waist, scooped neck and lace trim. Story on back page this section. (Cliff Stevens photo)

W. J. Banyon, Editor and Publisher  
Bert Lindendorf, Managing Editor

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available.



## President's Rights Must Be Upheld Says Peterson

BY BRANDON BROWN  
Staff Writer

Stable constitutional government in the United States may hinge on the preservation of the privileges and power of the presidency, a high U.S. Justice Department official suggested here last night.

Assistant Atty. Gen. Henry E. Petersen, 52, told the Economic Club of Southwestern Michigan

that the separation of powers of government doctrine should be "overriding" in these days of Watergate investigations, allegations and conflicts.

He termed the present a "time of Constitutional crisis" and said one branch of government must accommodate the other to avoid sharp conflicts that might endanger the separation of powers doctrine.

"These principles must be considered, not in defense of this President—it's almost become obscene to seem to defend this President—but in defense of this presidency, in defense of the prerogatives of the Congress, of the court, and in defense of the check and balance system which is in large part the separation of powers doctrine," he told some

300 men and women at Ramada Inn south of Benton Harbor.

"The presidency is entitled to protection, the President is entitled to have his viewpoint heard, and it is not obscene to argue for the validity of the separation of powers doctrine" because they're the bedrock of stable constitutional government.

The Justice Department, though sometimes precluded by conflict of interest from representing the President, has "an obligation to the presidency, to the Constitution, to the people, to preserve the powers of the institution."

"There must exist a certain inviolability in that office and in the courts and in the Congress."

Petersen predicted Watergate-related investigations and trials will roll on—Watergate is two years old in June—because the prosecutor has no room for error.

"You have to be right, otherwise you do immense damage to the public figure."

Watergate also will continue at length because of the litigiousness of the parties, the slow pace of courts and the magnitude of the investigation, he said.

"Even now, we in the Department of Justice... must attempt to define, so far as we are able, the limits of the law relating to impeachment."

"What is an impeachable offense? Who decides that issue? Is that decision reviewable in any forum? And if that seems a simple task, suppose they decide to impeach the President because he went for a morning stroll?" The far-reaching importance and effect of decisions in the Department of Justice are illustrated by Vice President Spiro Agnew's case, Petersen said.

The department said "yes" the vice president can be indicted and tried for a common crime but "conceded in a gesture of civility" to send the issue to the House of Representatives for possible impeachment with a plan to try the vice president if the House failed to act.

The eventual result "reflected the deeply-held conviction of Atty. Gen. Richardson and myself that the interests of the United States were better served by the resignation of the defendant, his plea to a felony charge, and an end to the matter."

The alternative was lengthy litigation, perhaps an impeachment trial, both "positions taken only as a last resort since they would have likely inflicted upon the nation serious risk and permanent scars."



**\$1,500 I&M EDUCATION AWARD:** Robert Jurgensen (left), manager of the Donald Cook Nuclear plant, congratulates Dale V. Shaller, 17, St. Joseph High school senior, who has been awarded a \$1,500 scholarship from Indiana & Michigan Electric Co. Dale's parents (right) are Mr. and Mrs. Delmont V. Shaller, 3051 Bluffwood Terrace, St. Joseph. Shaller is assistant plant manager of the Cook plant. Dale,

who plans to enroll at Kalamazoo college, is a member of the National Honor society, is active in choir and band organizations, and has worked as an orderly at Memorial hospital, St. Joseph. The scholarship is one of six awarded to utility company employees' children throughout the American Electrical Power system, of which I&M is a part. (Staff photo)

### DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

## Teacher May Seek Mittan's Seat



CHARLES HENDERSON  
Candidate?

Charles F. Henderson, 26, of 1732 Council drive, Benton township, said today he "may soon announce his candidacy in the Democratic primary for state representative in the 44th district."

The primary will be held Aug.

6. Rep. Ray Mittan, a Benton Harbor Republican, is the incumbent.

Henderson, a Benton Harbor high school teacher, said his campaign is "in the planning stages," but indicated he may formally announce his can-

didacy about March 21.

Mittan is regarded as a certainty to seek re-election but has not formally announced his candidacy.

The 44th district covers parts of Berrien and Cass counties.

## Camera Club Will Expand Competition In New Season

The Twin City Camera club plans to expand photographic competition, seek more membership and continue sponsorship of the Travel and Ad-

venture series. Tim Langlois, club president, described the program for 1974-75, at the annual meeting last night.

First Vice President Harold Andrus heads the club membership drive, and Blaine Olney, second vice president is in charge of competition.

Dr. Richard Lyon, chairman of the Travel and Adventure series, announced seven shows have been contracted for next season for a season ticket price of \$7. He said the club is aiming for a complete sellout of performances. This season it came within 188 tickets of that goal.

Treasurer Lowell Pepperl has been named chairman of the club's hosting of the fall meeting of the South West Michigan Council of Camera Clubs.

Other officers in charge of programs are Secretary Ken McKown and Past President Joe Macica.

Langlois said an example of a community project would be a local slide show, set to music and featuring such a photographic subject as the St. Joseph river.

## BH Physician Can Keep License Pending Hearing

A Berrien circuit judge Thursday in effect allowed a Benton Harbor physician to retain his license, which the state is trying to suspend, until he receives a hearing.

Judge William S. White denied a motion by the state attorney general's office to dismiss Dr. Byung Moon Lee's suit in circuit court. The attorney general claimed the suit actually is a mandamus action that should be heard only in the court of appeals.

Judge White's ruling keeps Dr. Lee's suit alive and maintains a temporary injunction the judge issued Feb. 20 preventing the Michigan Medical

Practice Board and Board of Pharmacy from suspending Dr. Lee's licenses to practice and handle controlled substances.

A final hearing by the Medical Practice Board on whether to suspend or revoke Dr. Lee's license to practice was scheduled March 7 but has been reset to March 13, court sources reported.

The board's temporary suspension documents indicate the suspension is sought for allegedly prescribing drugs without first conducting a medical history or physical examination. Dr. Lee in his suit denies it.

## Planners Approve Permit

The Benton township planning commission last night granted a license for sales of new and used motorcycles to Gerald Larsen, who said he will build a motorcycle sales shop on Plaza drive.

Larsen said the new Yamaha sales outlet will be housed in a 40 by 65 foot building at 2072 Plaza drive, north of Nickerson court. He estimated the cost of the building would be about \$40,000.

Planners noted the property is already zoned commercial, but stipulated in granting the sales license that no used cars be sold. Larsen said he had no intention of selling cars.

Larsen said there is only one motorcycle sales

outlet in the Twin Cities and another one is necessary because of the energy crisis, as motorcycles consume less gasoline than cars.

Planners also approved a request for Dudley Dew to combine two parcels, of seven and eight acres, on Highland avenue east of Benton Center road.

Referred to committee was a request by Ewald Kissinger, of 1180 Rocky Gap road, to rezone property at 1180 North Shore drive from single family to multiple dwelling. He said there are four apartments on the property now, and he would like to construct an additional six to eight units.



**COUNTY SPELLING CHAMPS:** Eighth graders from Upton Junior High school, St. Joseph, have won the Berrien County Cloverleaf spelling contest for the second time in three years. The Upton team won over 20 other eighth grade teams in two

eliminations. Finals were held at Andrews Academy, Berrien Springs. Members of the Upton team from left are: Chrissy Geiss, Ron Shore, Mike High, Kathy McKee, captain, Denis Miller, Katie Baker and Ann Slavicek. (Staff Photo)

## Ex-Bangor Man Dies, Son Injured In Hudsonville Crash

HUDSONVILLE — Richard Benner, 28, formerly of Bangor in Van Buren county, was killed and his four-year-old son seriously injured in a car-truck collision near here yesterday, according to the Ottawa county sheriff's department.

Benner was killed about 11:30 a.m. yesterday when he made a left hand turn into the path of a semi-truck, sheriff's deputies said. He was pinned in the wreckage for some time and was later pronounced dead at the scene, deputies said.

His son Michael was reported in critical condition today at Butterworth hospital in Grand Rapids, deputies added.

Benner and his family had been living in Hudsonville, deputies said.

Deputies said the truck driver, identified as James Grassmid, 28, of Zeeland, was not charged or ticketed in connection with the collision.

Funeral services for Benner are being handled by the Stafford funeral home in Bangor.

## North Central Airline Sales Reach Record \$127,392,000

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. —North Central airlines revenues reached a record \$127,392,000, and earnings totalled \$6,447,000 in 1973, according to Hal N. Carr, chairman of the board and chief executive officer.

The airline last year carried more than four million passengers and flew over one billion passenger miles for the second consecutive year.

"The fuel situation is expected to stabilize at present levels," Carr said, "and consequently have little impact on earnings. As a result, 1974 should be another excellent year for the company."

The airline's board of directors has declared a cash dividend of 10 cents per share to stockholders of record Feb. 8, and noted North Central is the only regional carrier

currently paying a cash dividend.

In 1973, revenues were six per cent above the \$120,627,000 realized in 1972. Operating expenses rose seven per cent to \$115,391,000, producing an operating profit of \$12,001,000 compared with \$12,355,000 in 1972. After interest and taxes, the airline achieved net earnings of \$6,447,000, or 52 cents per share, the company said.

North Central said revenues have increased every year since scheduled service began

in 1948, and profits have been earned for 19 of the 20 years under present management. It also said the airline leads the regionals with retained earnings of \$20,086,000 and the best debt-equity position, with stockholder's equity rising to \$40,611,000.

At Ross field, North Central reported 27,348 passengers boarded in 1973 compared to 28,060 in 1972. The airline also said 23,320 passengers arrived at Ross terminal in '73 compared to 25,201 in '72.

## Mail Exec To Address Chamber

Arvid Berg, district manager of the Grand Rapids postal district, which includes the Twin Cities area, will discuss postal service and cost saving methods at a Twin Cities Area Chamber of Commerce breakfast March 6.

The breakfast will be held at 7:30 a.m. at the St. Joseph Holiday Inn.

Berg has been with the postal service for two years, assuming his current position on Dec. 29, 1973. He had previously worked with engineering assignments on a consulting basis for several postal installations.



ARVID BERG  
Chamber Speaker

He is a native of Copenhagen, Denmark, and came to the U.S. in 1954. Berg worked in the engineering and management fields in the automotive industry for 15 years.

## Teen's Trial For Murder Nearing End

A Berrien juvenile court trial for a 14-year-old Benton Harbor youth accused of murdering an 80-year-old woman was expected to end today.

Based on a State Center for Forensic Psychiatry report, Judge Ronald H. Lange on Thursday ruled the youth competent to stand trial and four witnesses were heard, said Chief Assistant Prosecutor Robert McDowell.

Several more prosecution witnesses were expected to take the stand today, followed by the defense case. The trial began Thursday.

The youth is accused of being delinquent by "felony murder" or murder of Mrs. Isadora Granigan at the garage of her Benton Harbor home Nov. 12 during the perpetration or attempted perpetration of an unarmed robbery.

The youth, too young to waive to circuit court for trial as an adult, faces a maximum of commitment to state training school to age 19 if convicted.

A 14-year-old codefendant pleaded guilty Feb. 6 to delinquency through the act of manslaughter and was sentenced to training

school to age 19.

Mrs. Granigan was found unconscious in the garage of her home at 479 Broadway and died several hours later at Mercy hospital, with death ruled due to hemorrhaging in the brain.

Judge Langtook under advisement a defense motion to suppress the youth's confession to police on grounds the youth did not understand his rights, McDowell reported.

The youth already convicted was expected to be called to the stand today. The four testifying Wednesday were neighbors of Mrs. Granigan or gave medical testimony.



**HEROINE:** Mary Winkles, 14, right, sits next to sister Gean, 9, today following fire at family home in Buchanan last night during which quick action by Mary has been credited with preventing more serious burns to Gean and another sister and brother. They are children of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Winkles of 416 Walnut street, Buchanan. Gean suffered burns of arm and legs and Mary suffered burns of her left leg. (Staff photo)

## Girl Saves 3 In Blaze At Buchanan

BUCHANAN — Police and fire department officials here have credited a quick-thinking 14-year-old girl with action that prevented two sisters and a brother from suffering serious burns last night.

Authorities said Mary

Winkles, 14, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Winkles of 416 Walnut street, put out flames on the clothing of her sisters and brother following a flash fire in the family garage. Two of the youngsters were hospitalized.

The fire was touched off as one of the children, John, 10, attempted to light a gasoline lantern, according to Charles Wesner, Buchanan township fire chief.

John, his sister Georgia, 12, and a younger sister Gean, 9, were caught in the explosion and flash fire that swept the garage about 7:10 p.m., Wesner and Berrien sheriff's deputies said.

Mary, an eighth-grader at Buchanan schools, was in the house and heard the explosion, officials said.

She reportedly ran out to the garage and helped John put out the fire on his clothing, rolled Georgia on the ground to put out her clothing fire and then chased a panic-stricken Gean into the house and rolled her in a rug, authorities reported.

John and Georgia were reported in good condition today at Pawating hospital and Niles and Gean was released after treatment, hospital officials said.

Deputies and firemen said Mary's quick action may have prevented her sisters and brother from being burned more seriously.

Mary was babysitting while the parents were visiting sick relatives in LaPorte, officials said.

Firemen said the garage was only slightly damaged by the fire.

They said the fire erupted after Mary had sent her brother out to clean up the garage.



**POSTHUMOUS PEACH HONOR:** Mrs. Edward Scheffler, Sr., accepts outstanding Service award presented posthumously to her late husband by Michigan Peach Sponsors during spring meeting of State Horticultural society Thursday at Watervliet. Mr. Scheffler of Coloma was former president of the state peach organization. Citation accompanying annual award recognized his many services to the Michigan peach industry. John Nye (right), St. Joseph, president of Peach Sponsors, presents award. Behind Mrs. Scheffler from left are: Fred Scheffler, a son; Ruth Steakley, adopted daughter, and Jerry Scheffler, nephew. Mr. Scheffler died Jan. 10. (Staff photo)

## Mental Health Unit Due For Paw Paw

BY GARRETT DEGRAFF  
Paw Paw Bureau

PAW PAW — Van Buren Mental Health board is planning to locate a proposed new building to house the county's mental health program, in the Paw Paw area.

Further, the board has authorized negotiations to proceed with investors and builders for construction of a new building, according to Marland Blum, administrative director of the mental health services. The board's offices are currently in Bangor.

Blum reported the board's resolution proposing Paw Paw as the site for a new building also states that "additional housing for mental health services be provided in the western portion of the county as soon as

financially possible."

An 8,000 square foot building with a price tag estimated at about \$350,000 is being planned for the Paw Paw area, Blum said.

Within the next two to three months, Blum stated, mental health personnel hope to have secured investors willing to finance construction.

He said the proposed building would be financed and owned by the investors, who would lease it to the mental health board.

A firm timetable for construction has not been developed pending completion of an agreement with investors, Blum reported.

He indicated a site in the Paw Paw area has not been secured to date.

The mental health director

said a facility of about 4,000 square feet is projected for the western part of the county within "a couple years" after construction of the proposed Paw Paw building.

The mental health services program is now housed in the basement level of the Cooper Medical building in Bangor. The Bangor quarters are overcrowded with the present staff, and more staff members are needed, according to Blum.

Three-fourths of the program's funds come from the state under an arrangement whereby the state matches every \$1 raised locally with \$3.

According to Blum, the program's 1973-74 budget is \$243,451, and he predicted about \$500,000 would be needed for fiscal 1974-75.

## Ex-Judge Pollard Is Dead

Former Fifth District Court Judge Paul Pollard, 37, of Berrien Springs died at 11:48 p.m. Thursday at Mercy hospital, Benton Harbor. He had been admitted to the hospital Feb. 23.

He was elected to the new Fifth District bench for a four-year term in November of 1968, and took office Jan. 1, 1969, when the new court system replaced the traditional justice of the peace system in Michigan. He was defeated for re-election in November, 1972, and returned to a private law practice.

After completing law school at Notre Dame university in 1964, he practiced law for a time in Albion and was a staff attorney for Berrien County Legal Services bureau in 1967-68, before being elected a district judge.

Former Judge Pollard was born Oct. 3, 1936, in Cecil, Pa., and moved to the Berrien Springs area as a boy. He graduated from Berrien Springs high school in 1957 and received a bachelor's degree from Andrews university in 1961.

He was a member of the county, state and national bar associations.

Surviving are his widow, the former Jean Smith, whom he married on May 20, 1967; a daughter Paula Kay, at home; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Emile Pollard of Berrien Springs; a brother Emil of Scottsdale, Ariz., and Berrien Springs; a brother Emil of Scottsdale, Ariz., and a sister, Mrs. James (Naomi Jean) Butell of Berrien Springs.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday in the McLauchlin funeral home, Berrien Springs, where friends may call after 3 p.m. Saturday. Burial will be in Rose Hill cemetery.



PAUL POLLARD  
Former District Judge

## Firemen Make Sure Blaze Out

St. Joseph firemen quickly extinguished a fire in an unoccupied house at 3101 Lake Shore drive yesterday (1:08-2:42 p.m.) but had to conduct an extensive check to be sure it was completely out.

Firemen reported Lee Maikel was doing some renovating work and built a fire in the fireplace. Flames ignited wood through a crack in the chimney. Firemen put out the fire with a booster line but had to remove part of the wall to be sure there were no burning embers.

## Truck Wash Official Is Beaten

BY NICK SMITH  
Staff Writer

SAWYER — A company official for Truck-O-Matic, Inc., from Walcott, Iowa, was beaten up last night at the company's truck wash here, according to police at the New Buffalo post.

Herbert Van Westerop, 48, was listed in fair condition this morning at Memorial hospital in Michigan City, Ind., suffering from cuts and bruises of the head and face.

Van Westerop has been at the Sawyer truck wash since Monday, in an effort to settle a strike by workers who are seeking to get Henry Williams of Covert, reinstated as manager.

Police said two of seven men, who confronted Van Westerop at the truck wash about 7 p.m., allegedly attacked him. Police said witnesses reported that some of the group were former employees.

No arrests have been made.

## Berrien Engineer Post Still Open

The County of Berrien is beating the bushes for someone to fill the new post of county engineer to work with the county board of public works, planning department, drain commissioner and others.

Personnel Director Robert M. Little said there's long been a need for a county civil engineer but several hot prospects dried up the past several months.

It's definitely desired to fill the spot as soon as possible, he said. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and the county prefers three or more years of experience.

The salary is open but might fall in the \$14,000-\$17,000 range, depending on experience, Little said. Applicants should contact him at the courthouse, St. Joseph.

## Cherry Growers Warned Fruit-Loosening Chemical Could Cause Tree Damage

loosens the cherry from the stem, and when the trees are mechanically harvested with trunk shakers, cherries fall readily.

Kesner said that Ethephon was approved for use in 1973 by the Environmental Protection Agency. It was used extensively in Michigan, he said, and worked well for loosening cherries. However, a couple of weeks after last year's harvest, he said, trees began "gumming up."

He said a thick, sticky, gum-like sap was forced out of the trunk of the trees at points where the trees had been pruned. The condition, known as gummosis, is an indication that inner wood is going to die, he said. Kesner explained that older trees, very young trees, and trees with "weak wood" will have some dead branches if they were sprayed with Ethephon last year.

The gumming is also caused by other things, he added, telling that some trees that were never sprayed with the chemical still showed severe gumming.

If an orchard began gumming up after last year's harvest, Kesner advises growers to not use Ethephon this year.

Other suggestions to avoid possible damage were to apply the chemical earlier, and in weaker concentrations. He said that the longer Ethephon is on a tree, the looser the cherries become.

He told the growers to discontinue the use of "concentrate spraying." Use the dilute spraying method, he recommended, to increase the water to chemical ratio. He also

warned them to not spray old or very young trees.

"If there are persistent and severe problems with Ethephon among cherry growers, the producers may take it off the market," Kesner stated. He believes the chemical is very valuable to the cherry industry, and asked growers in attendance to use it carefully.

## South Haven School Hours Will Change

SOUTH HAVEN — South Haven public schools system will return to its normal starting time Monday after having pushed the time ahead half-an-hour in January because of darkness.

On Jan. 15 the starting time was advanced to minimize the dangers to youngsters who had been coming to school in darkness due to daylight saving time.

The new schedule will be morning kindergarten, 9 to 11:30 a.m.; afternoon kindergarten, 12:40 to 3:25 p.m.; first through fourth, 9 a.m. to 3:25 p.m.; fifth through eighth, 8:20 a.m. to 2:35 p.m. and high school (9-12), 8:15 a.m. to 2:47 p.m.

School officials noted that busses will pick up children in the morning about one-half hour earlier than the present and return them to their homes in the afternoon about 15 minutes earlier than present.

## Natural Resources Panel Schedules Benton Meeting

The State Natural Resources Commission (NRC) has scheduled the first of a series of "town meetings" to be held throughout the state for March 28 at the Holiday Inn in Benton township.

Joan Wolfe, a natural resource commissioner, said the meeting will begin at 8 p.m. and the purpose is for the public to list any of its concerns regarding natural resources.

Commissioners will be available to answer questions concerning such areas as water and air pollution, land management, wild life, recreation, and environmental protection.

The NRC consists of 7 unpaid citizen commissioners who make policy for the State Department of Natural Resources.

"We know that problems of natural resource

management are as close to people's hearts as any," Mrs. Wolfe said. The NRC holds most of its meetings in Lansing and now plans one every other month at various areas in the state to find out how the people feel and what they are concerned about, Mrs. Wolfe explained.

The "commissioners feel very strongly that they want to be responsive to the public and the meetings reflect a desire to show our responsiveness," she said.

Last fall, Gov. William Milliken admonished the DNR to "most carefully and diligently strive to be responsive to the people of this state." Mrs. Wolfe said she didn't think the Governor's statement directly influenced the decision to hold town meetings but does indicate how the commissioners also feel.

## Coloma Will Host 14 Bands In Music Festival Saturday

COLOMA — Fourteen bands will participate in the District B-C junior high school band festival Saturday, March 2, at the Coloma high school auditorium.

The festival, open to the public free of charge, will begin at 8 a.m. and conclude at 3:50 p.m.

Bands and appearance time are: Buchanan, 8 a.m.; Berrien Springs, 8:25

a.m. and Bloomingdale, 8:50 a.m.; Brandywine, 9:50 a.m.; New Buffalo, 9:55 a.m.; Three Oaks, 10:20 a.m.; Hartford eighth grade, 10:45 a.m.; Paw Paw, 11:10 a.m. and Cassopolis, 11:35 a.m.; Coloma, 1:30 p.m.; Fairplain, 1:55 p.m.; Milton junior high, 2:20 p.m.; Upton junior high, 3 p.m. and South Haven, 3:25 p.m.

## COLOMA DEADLINE MONDAY

## Fluoride Also For Preschoolers

COLOMA — Parents may enroll preschool children in the annual summer fluoride program offered through Coloma elementary schools, according to Mrs. Dino P. Mastri, chairman.

Mrs. Mastri said the fee is \$3 and the deadline for enrolling both preschool and elementary children is Monday, March 4.

Parents may contact Mrs. Mastri or Mrs. Ronald Clark, co-chairman. Dates for the clinic will be announced.

The program is supervised by the Michigan Department of Health and will be run in conjunction with one for students in grades two, five and eight.